

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

CONCURRENT IDS SUBMISSION

Submitted concurrently herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement with Form(s) PTO/SB/08A or Form(s) PTO-1449. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to return an initialed copy of the Form(s) to indicate consideration of the information listed thereon.

REWRITTEN ALLOWABLE CLAIM(S)

Claims 29, 36 and 43 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten, as indicated within the section numbered "7" on page 7 of the Office Action. Features/limitations of ones of the allowable dependent claims have been incorporated into the independent claim(s) 24, 31 and 38, thereby rendering the rewritten independent claim(s) and any claims dependent therefrom allowable, i.e., all of presently-pending claims 24-26, 28, 30-33, 35, 37-40 and 42 should be allowable as presently rewritten. Reconsideration and renewal of the allowance are respectfully requested. Applicant and the undersigned respectfully thank the Examiner for such indication of allowable subject matter.

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'102 AND '103 REJECTIONS - OBSOLETE VIA CLAIM AMENDMENT

All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed, but the present amendment of such claims (without prejudice or disclaimer) to obtain a patent (without prejudice

or disclaimer) on ones of the allowable claims as quickly as possible, has rendered such rejection(s) obsolete, and thus gratuitous traversal arguments concerning the rejection(s) are omitted for brevity. Further discussions/arguments concerning such rejection(s) are left for the future if/when appropriate. Based upon the following, reconsideration and withdrawal of such rejection(s) are respectfully requested.

The above statements, or any present cancellation of claims (without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that the rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter, but is merely use of a procedural approach to obtain a patent (without prejudice or disclaimer) on ones of the allowable claims as quickly as possible.

ALL CLAIMS IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the fact that all prior art rejected claims and/or non-elected/withdrawn claims have now been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and in view of the fact that all remaining claims have either been already allowed and/or rewritten into independent form, to depend from allowed claims and/or to address all informalities/objections, or appear allowable in view of the Terminal Disclaimer filed to obviate any double-patenting rejection, or appear allowable in view of the English language translations of Applicant's priority document(s) filed to obviate one or ones of the applied references, it is respectfully submitted that all presently pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance with respect to the present application is respectfully requested.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, i.e., Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

CONCLUSION

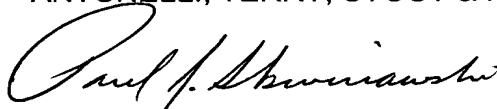
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Authorization is herein given to charge any shortage in the fees, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 501.36105CC2) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Based upon all of the foregoing, allowance of all presently-pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Skwierawski", is written over the printed name.

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